



# ***CITY NEWS***

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**DATE:** May 23, 2005  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **\*\* Media Advisory \*\***

### **Remember Our Missing Children Day**

Wichita Police will participate in national ***Remember Our Missing Children Day***, on Wednesday, May 25. The goal of National Missing Children's Day is to bring attention to this growing problem, and the public is encouraged to participate by attending a service at 8 p.m. on May 25 at Exploration Place, 300 N. McLean Blvd.

The Exploited and Missing Children Unit (EMCU) and the Wichita Children's Home are sponsoring the May 25 event, and beginning at 6:30 p.m., citizens can view a number of pertinent displays including the Safe Streets van, Internet Crimes Against Children and others.

The Wichita Police Department will also have its Child Identification program set up. This program enables parents to put their child's vital information, including a photograph, dimensions, and fingerprints on a computer disk. Parents fill out a questionnaire of basic information including height, weight, eye and hair color, blood

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type and any identifying scars and marks. The computer disk is turned over to parents – police do not keep a copy--and can be updated at any time.

At 8 p.m. Sedgwick County Sheriff Gary Steed and Wichita Police Deputy Chief Robert Lee will make some brief remarks, and at 8:30 p.m. there will be a candlelight vigil for our missing children.

Wichita has two open cases of missing children: Jacquilla E. Scales who has been missing since Sept. 5, 2001, and is now eight years old; and April S. Wiss who has been missing since January 11, 2000, and is now 21 years old.

In addition to missing child cases, EMCU works approximately 1600 run away cases each year. For more information on Kansas missing children, you can visit the National Exploited and Missing Children website at: [www.missingkids.com](http://www.missingkids.com)

Thousands of children run away from home each year, while others are abducted, or abandoned by their parents. Members of the Exploited and Missing Children Unit (EMCU) work diligently to recover and protect these children. EMCU is comprised of law enforcement personnel from the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office and the Wichita Police Department, who team with social workers from Social and Rehabilitation Services to work these challenging cases.

For additional information, please contact EMCU Commander Lt. Roy Mitchell at 337-6552